(a) whether the Telephone Directory of Bombay Telephones has not been supplied to the subscribers by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. for the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to supply the latest directory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). Sir, the last issue of main telephone directory for Bombay was published and distributed in August 1988. There after, two alphabetical supplements updated upto 1.5.89 and 10.12.90 were issued. The subsequent issue of the main directory could not be printed by the contractor, due to management and financial problems. The contractor has now come up with a proposal to execute the contract with the help of another reputed company, which has been agreed to by the MTNL. The next issue of Bombay Telephone Directory is likely to be published by the end of December 1991.

Cooperative Dairy Sector

5794. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to State :

(a) whether Cooperative Dairy Sector would face crisis if free licensing is resorted to in this sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to save this Cooperative Dairy Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (c). In the New Industrial Policy "milk food and malted food" has been delicensed. The impact of this policy on the cooperative dairy sector is being assessed. The interests of the cooperative dairy sector will be protected.

[Translation]

Licences for Mining in Bihar

5795. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to State :

(a) whether the land owners on whose land minerals were found have been issued licences for mining on priority basis in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details of the persons who have been issued licences on priority basis and the number who are yet to be issued licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Prospecting licences and mining leases are granted in accordance with the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act , 1957. Section 11 of the Act lays down the preferential rights of persons applying for such leases and licences. According to this provision there is no such preferential right of land owners, on whose lands minerals are found, to get licences or leases. However, according to provisions of Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 consent of the land owner is required before mining operation can be taken up.

(b) does not arise.

Increase in Capacity of Various Telephone Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh

5796. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Government propose to